

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A method for determining the location of a multi-technology wireless device operating in a foreign technology mode, said method comprising the steps of:

obtaining a temporary dialable number for said multi-technology wireless device;
determining the identity of the equipment serving said multi-technology wireless device using said temporary dialable number; and
obtaining the location of said multi-technology wireless device directly from said serving equipment.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein said step of obtaining a temporary dialable number for said multi-technology wireless device comprises:

requesting the identity of said serving equipment from a native technology serving equipment subscriber information database for said multi-technology wireless device;
receiving a response from said subscriber information database and determining that the subscriber information database has provided the identity of a network conversion element instead of the identity of actual serving equipment; and
requesting said temporary dialable number for said multi-technology device from said network conversion element.

3. The method of claim 2, wherein said step of determining the identity of said serving equipment comprises:

providing a temporary dialable number database which contains the identity of equipment associated with temporary dialable numbers; and
utilizing said temporary dialable number database to cross reference said temporary dialable number with the identity of the equipment serving said temporary dialable number.

4. The method of claim 3, wherein said step of obtaining the location of said multi-technology wireless device comprises:

determining the level of accuracy desired for said location information;
formatting a request for the geographic location of said multi-technology wireless device
which provides said desired accuracy and is compatible with said serving equipment;
sending said location request directly to said serving equipment; and
receiving said location information from said serving equipment.

5. A method of determining the identity of equipment serving a multi-technology wireless device operating in a foreign technology mode, said method comprising:

obtaining a temporary dialable number for said multi-technology wireless device;
providing a temporary dialable number database which contains the identity of equipment associated with temporary dialable numbers; and
utilizing said temporary dialable number database to cross reference said temporary dialable number with the identity of the equipment serving said temporary dialable number.

6. The method of claim 5, wherein said step of obtaining a temporary dialable number for said multi-technology wireless device comprises:

requesting the identity of said serving equipment from a native technology serving equipment subscriber information database for said multi-technology wireless device;
receiving a response from said subscriber information database and determining that the subscriber information database has provided the identity of a network conversion element instead of the identity of actual serving equipment; and
requesting said temporary dialable number for said multi-technology device from said network conversion element.

7. A method of initiating location signaling to equipment serving a multi-technology wireless device operating in a foreign technology mode, said method comprising:

obtaining a temporary dialable number for said multi-technology wireless device;
determining the identity of the equipment serving said multi-technology wireless device by utilizing said temporary dialable number;

formatting a request for the geographic location of said multi-technology wireless device compatible with the identity of said serving equipment; and
sending said location request directly to said serving equipment.

8. The method of claim 7, wherein said step of obtaining a temporary dialable number for said multi-technology wireless device comprises:

requesting the identity of said serving equipment from a native technology serving equipment subscriber information database for said multi-technology wireless device;
receiving a response from said subscriber information database and determining that the subscriber information database has provided the identity of a network conversion element instead of the identity of actual serving equipment; and
requesting said temporary dialable number for said multi-technology device from said network conversion element.

9. The method of claim 7 wherein said formatting step comprises:

determining the level of accuracy desired for said location information; and
formatting said location request such that it provides said accuracy desired for said location information.

10. A method of identifying the type of technology in which a multi-technology wireless device operating in a foreign technology mode is operating, said method comprising the steps of:

obtaining a temporary dialable number for said multi-technology wireless device;
providing a temporary dialable number database which contains the technology of equipment associated with temporary dialable numbers; and
utilizing said temporary dialable number database to cross reference said temporary dialable number with the technology of the equipment serving said temporary dialable number, which corresponds to the type of technology in which the multi-technology wireless device is operating.

11. The method of claim 10, wherein said step of obtaining a temporary dialable number for said multi-technology wireless device comprises:

requesting the identity of said serving equipment from a native technology serving equipment subscriber information database for said multi-technology wireless device; receiving a response from said subscriber information database and determining that the subscriber information database has provided the identity of a network conversion element instead of the identity of actual serving equipment; requesting said temporary dialable number for said multi-technology device from said network conversion element.

12. A system for determining the location of a multi-technology wireless device operating in a foreign technology environment, said system comprising:

a database relating each temporary dialable number of a plurality of temporary dialable numbers to corresponding serving equipment serving said temporary dialable numbers; and

a mobile position server in communication with said temporary dialable number database, said mobile position server operative to:

request and receive a temporary dialable number for said multi-technology wireless device;

utilize said database to cross reference said temporary dialable number with the identity of the corresponding serving equipment; and

obtain the location of said multi-technology wireless device directly from said corresponding serving equipment .

13. The system of claim 12 further comprising:

a network conversion element operative to translate signaling from a native technology protocol to a foreign technology protocol for said multi-technology wireless device; and

a subscriber information database operating in the native technology environment of said multi-technology wireless device, said subscriber information database containing the address of the network conversion element associated with said multi-technology wireless device operating in a foreign technology environment;

wherein said mobile position server is in communication with said network conversion element and said subscriber information database;

wherein said mobile position server is operative to determine that the subscriber information database contains the address of said network conversion element; and

wherein said mobile position server obtains said temporary dialable number for said multi-technology wireless device from said network conversion element.

14. A system for determining the location of a multi-technology wireless device operating in a foreign technology environment, said system comprising:

a means for obtaining a temporary dialable number for said multi-technology wireless device;

a means for determining the identity of the equipment serving said multi-technology wireless device by utilizing said temporary dialable number; and

a means for determining the location of said multi-technology wireless device directly from said serving equipment.

15. The system of claim 14, wherein said means for determining the identity of the serving equipment further comprises:

a means for relating temporary dialable numbers for roaming devices in a wireless network with the corresponding equipment serving said temporary dialable numbers; and

a means for utilizing said means for relating to cross reference said temporary dialable number with the identity of said serving equipment.

16. A computer readable medium having computer executable instructions for performing a method for determining the location of a multi-technology wireless device operating in a foreign technology mode comprising:

obtaining a temporary dialable number for said multi-technology wireless device;

determining the identity of the equipment serving said multi-technology wireless device by utilizing said temporary dialable number; and

obtaining the location of said multi-technology wireless device directly from said serving equipment.

17. A computer readable medium having computer executable instructions for performing a method of determining the identity of equipment serving a multi-technology wireless device operating in a foreign technology mode comprising:

obtaining a temporary dialable number for said multi-technology wireless device;

providing a database which contains the identity of equipment associated with temporary dialable numbers; and

utilizing said database to cross reference said temporary dialable number with the identity of the equipment serving said temporary dialable number.

18. A computer readable medium having executable instructions for performing a method of initiating location signaling to equipment serving a multi-technology wireless device operating in a foreign technology mode comprising:

requesting and receiving a temporary dialable number for said multi-technology wireless device;

determining the identity of the equipment serving said multi-technology wireless device by utilizing said temporary dialable number;

formatting a request for the geographic location of said multi-technology wireless device compatible with the identity of said serving equipment; and

sending said location request directly to said serving equipment.

19. A computer readable medium having executable instructions for performing a method of identifying the type of technology in which a multi-technology wireless device operating in a foreign technology mode is operating comprising:

requesting and receiving a temporary dialable number for said multi-technology wireless device;

providing a data source which relates the technology of equipment associated with each temporary dialable number of a plurality of temporary dialable numbers; and

utilizing said data source to cross reference said temporary dialable number with the technology of the equipment serving said temporary dialable number, which corresponds to the type of technology in which the multi-technology wireless device is operating.